

(c) Promptly after an applicant or licensee learns of any change in circumstances described in paragraph (b) of this section, the applicant or licensee must:

(1) Inform the Regional Engineer of that change in circumstances;

(2) Consult and cooperate with appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies responsible for public health and safety to determine any advisable revisions to the emergency action plan; and

(3) File with the Regional Engineer three copies of any revisions to the appropriate studies, maps, plans, procedures, or other information in the emergency action plan itself or its appendices that have changed as a result of that consultation.

(d) An applicant or licensee must conduct a comprehensive review of the adequacy of the emergency action plan at least once each year.

#### § 12.25 Posting and readiness.

(a) A copy of the current emergency action plan itself must be posted in a prominent location readily accessible to the licensee's or applicant's operating personnel who are responsible for controlling water flows and for notifying public health and safety agencies and affected persons.

(b) Each licensee or applicant must annually test the state of training and readiness of key licensee or applicant personnel responsible for responding properly during a project emergency to ensure that they know and understand the procedures to be followed throughout a project emergency.

### Subpart D—Inspection by Independent Consultant

#### § 12.30 Applicability.

This subpart applies to any licensed project development that has a dam:

(a) That is more than 32.8 feet (10 meters) in height above streambed, as defined in § 12.31(c);

(b) That impounds an impoundment with a gross storage capacity of more than 2,000 acre-feet (2.5 million cubic meters); or

(c) That has a high hazard potential and is determined by the Regional Engineer or other authorized Commission

representative to require inspection by an independent consultant under this subpart.

#### § 12.31 Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart:

(a) *Independent consultant* means any person who:

(1) Is a licensed professional engineer;

(2) Has at least 10 years experience and expertise in dam design and construction and in the investigation of the safety of existing dams; and

(3) Is not, and has not been within two years before being retained to perform an inspection under this subpart, an employee of the licensee or its affiliates or an agent acting on behalf of the licensee or its affiliates.

(b) *Dam that has a high hazard potential* means any dam whose failure, in the judgment of the Commission or its authorized representative, might endanger human life or cause significant property damage, or which meets the criteria for high hazard potential as defined by the Corps of Engineers in 33 CFR part 222.

(c) *Height above streambed* means:

(1) For a dam with a spillway, the vertical distance from the lowest elevation of the natural streambed at the downstream toe of the dam to the maximum water storage elevation possible without any discharge from the spillway. The maximum water storage elevation is:

(i) For gated spillways, the elevation of the tops of the gates;

(ii) For ungated spillways, the elevation of the spillway crest or the top of any flashboards, whichever is higher;

(2) For a dam without a spillway, the vertical distance from the lowest elevation of the natural streambed at the downstream toe of the dam to the lowest point on the crest of the dam.

(d) *Gross storage capacity* means the maximum possible volume of water impounded by a dam with zero spill, that is, without the discharge of water over the dam or a spillway.

(e) The Director of the Office of Energy Projects Licensing may, for good cause shown, grant a waiver of the 10 year requirement in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. Any petition for waiver